

Application No.10/693,087
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cartridge for a waste disposal device, comprising:

a casing defining a cavity containing a length of flexible tubing;

5 an annular cover connected to said casing to substantially cover said cavity and arranged such that a ring-shaped opening is defined between said cover and said casing for passage of said tubing therethrough; and

10 first closing means for ~~closing~~ forming a closure at a front end of said tubing outside of said cavity without tying of said front end of said tubing such that a bag is formed by said tubing into which a waste package can be inserted.

2. (Currently Amended) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein said first closing means comprises a metal clip or clasp attached to the said front end of said tubing.

3. (Currently Amended) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein said first closing means ~~comprise~~ comprises a heat seal at said front end of said tubing.

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4. (Currently Amended) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein said first closing means ~~comprise~~ comprises stitches such that ~~the~~ said front end of said tubing is sewn closed.

5 5. (Original) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein said casing includes opposed substantially cylindrical inner and outer walls and an annular lower wall extending between said inner and outer walls, said ring-shaped opening being defined between an inner edge of said cover and said inner wall.

6. (Original) The cartridge of claim 5, wherein said casing further includes a flange extending outward from said outer wall and attached to a lower surface of said cover.

7. (Original) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein said cover is detachably connected to said casing to enable insertion of a replacement length of tubing in said casing.

8. (Original) The cartridge of claim 1, further comprising second closing means arranged in connection with said casing and said cover for closing and sealing a rear end of said tubing.

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9. (Original) The cartridge of claim 8, wherein said second closing means comprises score lines arranged on said cover to enable said cover to be folded about said score lines, attachment means arranged on said cover for attaching folded parts of said cover to one another, and slits arranged through
5 said casing in alignment with said score lines.

10. (Original) The cartridge of claim 9, wherein said attachment means comprises hook and loop fasteners.

11. (Original) The cartridge of claim 9, wherein said attachment means comprises a tie and clasp stamped into said cover.

12. (Original) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein said cover is made of fibrous material.

13. (Original) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein said cartridge includes at least one flange adapted to be received between tabs formed on the waste disposal device to hold the cartridge in position relative to the waste disposal device.

14. (Currently Amended) A cartridge for a waste disposal device, comprising:

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a casing defining a cavity containing a length of flexible tubing;

5 an annular cover connected to said casing to substantially cover said cavity and arranged such that a ring-shaped opening is defined between said cover and said casing for passage of said tubing therethrough; and

10 first closing means arranged in connection with said casing and said cover for closing and sealing a rear end of said tubing, said first closing means comprising a weakened portion formed on said cover such that a part of said cover on one side of said weakened portion is foldable about said weakened portion onto another part of said cover on an opposite side of said weakened
15 portion.

15. (Currently Amended) The cartridge of claim 14, wherein said ~~first closing means~~ weakened portion comprises score lines arranged on said cover to enable said cover to be folded about ~~said score lines~~, said first closing means further comprising
5 attachment means arranged on said cover for attaching folded parts of said cover to one another, and slits arranged through said casing in alignment with said score lines.

16. (Original) The cartridge of claim 15, wherein said attachment means comprises hook and loop fasteners.

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17. (Original) The cartridge of claim 15, wherein said attachment means comprises a tie and clasp stamped into said cover.

18. (Original) The cartridge of claim 15, wherein said casing includes opposed substantially cylindrical inner and outer walls and an annular lower wall extending between said inner and outer walls, said ring-shaped opening being defined between an inner edge of said cover and said inner wall, said score lines being arranged through said inner, outer and lower wall of said casing.

19. (Currently Amended) A cartridge for a waste disposal device, comprising:

a casing defining a cavity containing a length of flexible tubing; and

an annular cover connected to said casing to substantially cover said cavity and arranged such that a ring-shaped opening is defined between said cover and said casing for passage of said tubing therethrough;

said ~~casing cover~~ being made of ~~a fibrous material~~
cardboard.

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20. (New) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein said cover is made of cardboard.

21. (New) The cartridge of claim 8, wherein said second closing means comprises a weakened portion formed on said cover such that a part of said cover on one side of said weakened portion is foldable about said weakened portion onto another part of said cover on an opposite side of said weakened portion.

22. (New) A cartridge for a waste disposal device, comprising:

a casing defining a cavity containing a length of flexible tubing;

an annular cover connected to said casing to substantially cover said cavity and arranged such that a ring-shaped opening is defined between said cover and said casing for passage of said tubing therethrough; and

first closing means for closing a front end of said tubing outside of said cavity such that a bag is formed by said tubing into which a waste package is insertable, said closing means being selected from the group consisting of a metal clip or clasp attached to said front end of said tubing, a heat seal at said front end of said tubing and stitches which sew said front end of said tubing closed.

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23. (New) A cartridge for a waste disposal device,
comprising:

a casing defining a cavity;

a length of flexible tubing contained in said cavity, said
5 tubing having a front end and a rear end and defining an elongate
passage extending fully between said front end and said rear end,
said tubing further including lines of depressions situated
between said front end and said rear end and extending entirely
across a circumference of said tubing to enable said tubing to be
10 cleanly torn about each of said lines while forming open ends of
said tubing on both sides of said line; and

an annular cover connected to said casing to substantially
cover said cavity and arranged such that a ring-shaped opening is
defined between said cover and said casing for passage of said
15 tubing therethrough.